

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

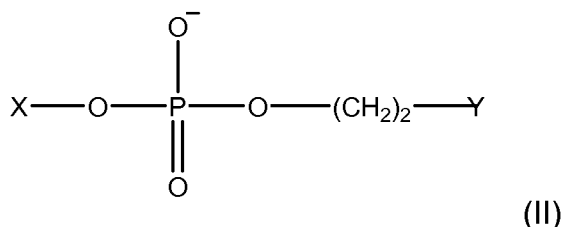
Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel, as follows:

1-58. (Canceled)

59. (New) A method for reducing damage to heart muscle caused by C-reactive protein (CRP) in a patient who has suffered ischemic necrosis and is in need thereof, comprising inhibiting CRP binding to its ligands *in vivo* in the patient, by administering to the patient an effective amount of a compound that comprises phosphocholine or a derivative thereof.

60. (New) The method of claim 59 wherein the compound is bound by the calcium-dependent ligand binding site of CRP.

61. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the compound has the general formula (II)



wherein X is H or C₁ to C₂₀, and Y is N substituted to form ammonium.

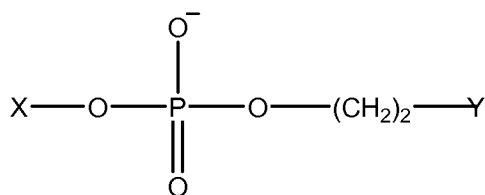
62. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein X is C₁ to C₂₀ alkyl.

63. (New) The method of claim 62, wherein X is C₁₂ to C₂₀ alkyl.

64. (New) A method for reducing tissue damage caused by C-reactive protein (CRP) in a patient in need thereof who has suffered an inflammatory or tissue damaging condition comprising inhibiting CRP binding to its ligands *in vivo* within the patient, by administering to the patient an effective amount of a compound that comprises phosphocholine or a derivative thereof..

65. (New) The method of claim 64 wherein the compound is bound by the calcium-dependent ligand binding site of CRP.

66. (New) The method of claim 64, wherein the compound has the general formula (II)



(II)

wherein X is H or C₁ to C₂₀, and Y is N substituted to form ammonium.

67. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein X is C₁ to C₂₀ alkyl.

68. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein X is C₁₂ to C₂₀ alkyl.

69. (New) The method of claim 64, wherein the inflammatory or tissue damaging condition is selected from one or more of ischemic necrosis or stroke.